

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION  
In the Specification

Page 21, kindly amend the paragraph extending from line 17 to line 23 as follows.

--Referring to FIGURE 4, the composite bond element contact length is defined as the sum of the individual bond element contact lengths which are represented by line lengths along the widths of the bond elements traversed by a given imaginary increment line 84 between side edges 16 and 18. In the illustrated embodiment, the bond element contact lengths of the imaginary increment lines are typically about 0.030 inch long on respective bond elements as shown in FIGURE 5, and the overall pattern width "W" is about 0.380 inch. In such illustrated environment, variation in the composite contact length should be within 0.010 inch of the average composite contact length of the segment.--